

DOCKET NO: 278363US0PCT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :  
TAKAO HARADA, ET AL. : EXAMINER: ZHU, WEIPING  
SERIAL NO: 10/552,465 :  
FILED: OCTOBER 7, 2005 : GROUP ART UNIT: 1793  
FOR: METHOD FOR PRODUCING :  
IMPROVED COAL FOR USE IN :  
METALLURGY, AND METHOD FOR :  
PRODUCING REDUCED METAL AND :  
SLAG CONTAINING OXIDIZED :  
NONFERROUS METAL :

AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated March 26, 2009, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following amendment and remarks:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Support for the Amendments** begins on page 8 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 8 of this paper.